

LSE Research Online

Ashley Gorst, Ali Dehlavi and [Ben Groom](#) Crop productivity and adaptation to climate change in Pakistan

**Article (Accepted version)
(Refereed)**

Original citation:

Gorst, Ashley and Dehlavi, Ali and Groom, Ben (2018) Crop productivity and adaptation to climate change in Pakistan. [Environment and Development Economics](#), 23 (6). pp. 679-701. ISSN 1355-770X

DOI: <https://doi.org/10.1017/S1355770X18000232>

© 2018 [Cambridge University Press](#)

This version available at: <http://eprints.lse.ac.uk/id/eprint/91330>

Available in LSE Research Online: December 2018

LSE has developed LSE Research Online so that users may access research output of the School. Copyright © and Moral Rights for the papers on this site are retained by the individual authors and/or other copyright owners. Users may download and/or print one copy of any article(s) in LSE Research Online to facilitate their private study or for non-commercial research. You may not engage in further distribution of the material or use it for any profit-making activities or any commercial gain. You may freely distribute the URL (<http://eprints.lse.ac.uk>) of the LSE Research Online website.

This document is the author's final accepted version of the journal article. There may be differences between this version and the published version. You are advised to consult the publisher's version if you wish to cite from it.

Crop Productivity and Adaptation to Climate Change in Pakistan*

Ashley Gorst¹ (corresponding author), Ali Dehlavi², and Ben Groom³

¹ Vivid Economics, 26-28 Ely Place, London. ashley.gorst@vivideconomics.com

²Data Strategy and Analytics Department, HBL Pakistan, Karachi. ali.dehlavi@hbl.com

³Department of Geography and Environment, London School of Economics and Political
Science, London. b.groom@lse.ac.uk

Abstract

The effectiveness of adaptation strategies is crucial for reducing the costs of climate change. Using plot-level data from a specifically designed survey conducted in Pakistan, we investigate the productive benefits for farmers who adapt to climate change. The impact of implementing on-farm adaptation strategies is estimated separately for two staple crops: wheat and rice. We employ propensity score matching and endogenous switching regressions to account for the possibility that farmers self-select into adaptation. Estimated productivity gains are positive and significant for rice farmers who adapted but negligible for wheat. Counterfactual gains for non-adapters were significantly positive, which is potentially a sign of transactions costs to adaptation. Other factors associated with adaptation were formal credit and extension, underscoring the importance of addressing institutional and informational constraints that inhibit farmers from improving their farming practices. The findings provide evidence for the Pakistani Planning and Development Department's ongoing assessment of climate-related agricultural losses.

*We would like to thank Salvatore Di Falco, Charlie Palmer, Rab Nawaz, and Basharat Saeed for comments at various stages of this work. A debt is due to members of the team at World Wildlife Fund for Nature-Pakistan who worked tirelessly on data collection. Dr. Khuda Bakhsh, Dr. Iftikhar Adil, Sadaf Khan and Farrukh Zaman were particularly instrumental in this regard. The paper also benefited substantially from insightful comments from two anonymous referees. We would like to thank them for their valuable suggestions. This project was kindly supported financially by the International Development Research Centre. The ESRC also provides individual funding to one of the authors. We similarly acknowledge the support of the LSE Grantham Research Institute and the Centre for Climate Change Economics and Policy.

1 Introduction

Climate change is likely to be problematic for the food security of farmers in Pakistan. Annual average mean temperatures in the country have increased by 0.47°C since 1960, with current projections from regional climate models predicting that temperatures in the last quarter of this century will increase by around 3°C relative to 1961-90 (Chaudhry et al., 2009; Islam et al., 2009). Observed rainfall has also become more erratic with extreme precipitation events now increasingly common (Hijioka et al., 2014; Turner and Annamalai, 2012). As a largely arid country, future climate change is likely to exacerbate already challenging growing conditions. With 45% of the labour force employed in agriculture and 24% of gross domestic product derived from the sector (Government of Pakistan, 2010), the resilience of agricultural production to climate change is of high importance to the continued development of Pakistan’s economy.

Many studies predict that climate change will have a negative effect on average crop yields (Auffhammer and Schlenker, 2014). Economic studies typically estimate the cost of climate change using cross-sectional (Mendelsohn et al., 1994) or panel estimation techniques (Deschenes and Greenstone, 2007). Similar methods applied in Pakistan have estimated significant negative effects due to climate change for widely grown staple crops like rice and wheat (Siddiqui et al., 2012). What is less clear from these approaches, however, is the impact that adaptation might have in offsetting the effects of climate change. Whether effective means of adaptation can be identified is a key part of reducing the uncertainty of climate impacts and informing policy about how best to reduce these costs in the future (Fankhauser et al., 1999; Auffhammer and Schlenker, 2014).

To estimate the impact of adaptation, we study its role in explaining the crop productivity of farmers who have already altered their agricultural activities in response to perceived changes in climate. We focus our interest on autonomous adaptations, which are those undertaken by individual farmers.¹ These adaptations are key to altering agricultural systems in the future given that they are likely to be implemented most efficiently

¹While planned adaptations carried out by governments or other institutions may also be important at ameliorating the costs of climate change (Lobell and Burke, 2010), we constrain our focus to autonomous adaptation.

based on farmers' private interests (Mendelsohn, 2000). Identifying the impact that adaptation measures have on current yields is important to understanding whether already available technologies or practices could ameliorate projected adverse impacts of climate change. In addition, by measuring the impact of adaptation on current farm yields, we consider whether there are gains to food security in the short-term. If such gains exist, identifying barriers to adaptation and encouraging use of these practices should be a primary consideration for policymakers interested in immediate economic development goals.

This paper is the first to study the impact of climate change adaptation strategies in Pakistan.² We use a new cross-sectional data set collected in 2013 from a specifically designed survey of 1,422 farm households of Sindh and Punjab provinces. The study was conducted to understand how agricultural households in the major agricultural areas of the country undertake agricultural production and how this is affected by a range of household and institutional factors. The survey also collected detailed information on the range of adaptation strategies that farmers use to adapt to climate change. The various strategies employed include switching crop types or varieties, changing farm inputs, as well as soil and water conservation practices.

The decision to employ adaptation practices may be the result of both observable and unobservable differences between farmers, so careful treatment of selection into adaptation is required in order to identify causal effects. Our data mean that we are limited to cross-sectional estimators to address these important empirical issues. Our identification strategy uses two approaches which control first for selection on observables, and then for selection on unobservables following Di Falco et al. (2011). A suite of tests establishes robustness in each case. In this way we estimate the impact for farmers that adapted and the potential gain non-adapting farmers.

Unlike previous studies of this type, e.g. Di Falco et al. (2011), our analysis is undertaken at the crop-level. We separately estimate the impact that adaptation has on the

²Most of the literature on the micro-determinants and impact of adaptation strategies has been conducted in the context of African agriculture. A useful review of these studies can be found in Di Falco (2014).

productivity of two of the most widely grown crops in Pakistan: wheat and rice. Since climate change may affect the productivity of these crops unevenly (Siddiqui et al., 2012) and that agronomic constraints and farm management options differ across these crops, it is important to understand whether adaptation has heterogeneous effects for different crops. Additionally, consideration of the institutional determinants and constraints to adaptation is of high interest in a country with a complex mix of formal and informal institutions. Identifying the key determinants of adaptation to climate change, and the chief constraints, will provide assistance to policymakers in their attempts to design adaptation policies (Di Falco, 2014).

The results of this study show that the productive benefits of adaptation differ between rice and wheat, and also across farmers. For wheat, we estimate a positive but not statistically significant impact of adaptation account for both observed and unobserved selection. For rice, however, the estimated impact implies productive gains of around 20 percent accounting for observable covariates and 9 percent when accounting for unobservable factors. For both crops there is evidence of selection into adaptation suggesting that farmers who have adapted to climate change in Pakistan are more productive than the average farmer. There is also suggestive evidence about characteristics that drive the decision to adapt. Credit is important for adaptation, but only in particular forms. Formal credit is positively associated with adaptation, while households that received credit from informal sources, such as middlemen, were significantly less likely to adapt. This points to the importance of a well-functioning formal credit market for funding changes in farm practices. There also seems to be significant scope to expand the reach of extension services to encourage adaptation since these services are only utilised by a small proportion of the sample. Finally, the estimated potential gains from adaptation for non-adapting farmers are consistently positive across specifications. The fact that this group does not adapt despite the positive potential gains is an indication of either significant transaction costs to adaptation for this group, or the need for large increases in complementary inputs that are unavailable to non-adapters.

From a practical perspective, this paper offers a useful methodological approach to

evaluating the impact of and constraints to adaptation. The results will be helpful for the Punjab and Sindh’s P&DDs in their ongoing evaluation of climate-related crop losses at the national and regional level. In particular the results identify some of the critical regional and crop-specific factors that provincial and national governments can address in implementing the priorities of the Provincial and National Climate Change Policies in a way that complements agricultural development more generally.³

The remainder of the paper is structured as follows. Section 2 describes the survey and the variables used in the paper. Section 3 outlines the empirical specification of the study with Section 4 presenting the results. Finally, Section 5 discusses implications of the results.

2 Data

2.1 Data collection

We use data collected during April-June 2013 from a detailed household survey to specifically address the determinants and impact of climate change adaptation for agricultural households in Pakistan. A copy of the survey is available in the Online Appendix. The survey collected data on agricultural practices, households characteristics, as well as a range of institutional characteristics. In total, 1,422 households were surveyed in the provinces of Sindh and Punjab, the two most commercially important agricultural areas. Within these provinces, seven sites were then chosen to reflect a range of agro-climatic conditions and cropping patterns. To ensure this variation in our dataset, the Pakistan Meteorological Department rendered sub-district scale (25km resolution) average annual precipitation and temperature data from 1990-2012. Two of the four Punjab sites are in a rainfed or *barani* belt, while the other two are in a cotton/wheat belt; and, of the 3 Sindh sites, two are also in the cotton/wheat category, while one is a rice/other category. The non-*barani* sites are predominantly irrigated, either through surface or groundwater.

³The European Union funded ‘Building Capacity on Climate Change Adaptation in Coastal Areas of Pakistan (CCAP)’ project of the World Wide Fund for Nature (WWF) recently argued for the allocation of Federal and Provincial funds for adaptation and associated agricultural training, and for local budgets for adaptation training for the local P&DDs.

We followed a multi-stage stratified cluster sampling approach following the approach used by the Pakistan Bureau of Statistics. Within the two selected districts (Sindh and Punjab) Union Councils were randomly selected and villages (the clusters) were then randomly sampled with probability proportional to population. The sampling was stratified by Union Councils with large (>10) or small (≤ 10) numbers of villages, and no less than 10 villages and up to 15 were selected within each strata. Households were also stratified into 3 bands according to farm size: small farmers (<12.5 acre holding), medium (>12.5 acres but <24 acres) and large (>24 acres). For both Punjab and Sindh, we determined the appropriate sample size based on a 95% confidence interval for the estimates. In sum, this sampling approach was taken to produce a sample that was representative at the regional level with the objective of informing policy.

Survey modules on household characteristics, farm production and inputs, institutional features, and adaptation practices were collected as part of the survey. Table 1 summarises variables used in the present study and their sample mean for sample households.

2.2 Definition of adaptation

In this paper, we are careful to focus only on actions taken by farmers in response or anticipation of factors attributed to climate change. Since farmers may undertake some of these strategies as part of the process of agricultural development, we require that these strategies are undertaken in response to climate change for it to constitute adaptation. Accordingly, in one section of the survey, farmers were asked: “How has your household adapted to cope with climatic changes?”.⁴ For the present study, our interest is on the impact of autonomous, on-farm adaptation measures on productivity. In the survey, some farmers identified off-farm work as their adaptation strategy. We do not include this strategy in our definition of adaptation since its impact on farm productivity is ambiguous, although we include this variable in the set of controls to study.⁵ Similarly,

⁴The enumerators explained the term “climate change” as changes in the long-term weather trends, such as annual or seasonal rainfall and temperature.

⁵On the one hand, income earned off-farm could alleviate household liquidity constraints allowing investment into productivity improving agricultural technologies. For example, Kousar and Abdulai

we further exclude public infrastructure investments, such as damming, since these are not part of the farmers adaptation choice set.

On-farm adaptation strategies can be grouped into the following categories. These were alterations in crop timing, crop switching, agricultural inputs, or the adoption of soil or water conservation technologies. These are listed and described in detail in Online Appendix in Table A.1. The majority of farmers use a combination of these strategies, with the average number of strategies undertaken by farmers was 2.14.⁶

Changing crop timing can avoid planting or harvesting during adverse seasonal climatic conditions. For instance, higher average temperatures may mean that the planting of summer crops needs to be brought forward to reduce exposure to high temperatures in early growing stages. Survey responses showed that 25% of farmers who adapted used this strategy. Of those who changed crop timings, the majority had reverted to later sowing or earlier harvesting of crops. For wheat, farmers have switched to planting in November rather than October. Harvesting has also taken place earlier in April or in late-May. For rice, some farmers have switched to planting in April rather than May.

Changing variety or type of crop could be beneficial if certain crops grow better in more adverse conditions. For instance, a farmer facing an increased likelihood of drought may switch to faster maturing varieties of the same crop or switch into a different crop that is more tolerant to lower water availability (Lobell and Burke, 2010). A study by Kurukulasuriya and Mendelsohn (2008) found that incorporating crop switching into calculations using the Ricardian framework significantly lowers the cost of climate change across African farms. One-third of adapting farmers had done so by switching crops. One concern is that by including crop switching (which includes both switching types and/or varieties) in the definition of adaptation at the household level, we may not pick

(2016) find that households that had a member working off-farm were more likely to invest in soil conservation methods in Punjab. On the other, lost household labour could plausibly reduce productivity by reducing the amount of household labour input available.

⁶Here we acknowledge the alternative approach taken by Di Falco and Veronesi (2013) who use a multinomial endogenous switching regression model to study the importance of *separate* adaptation strategies. They find that a combination of strategies is superior to strategies used in isolation in terms of their impact on farm revenue. Strategies used in isolation do not have a statistically significant impact on household revenue. We do not employ this method due to the problem of estimating a relevant baseline for impact since the number of potential combinations of adaptation strategies is large.

up the productivity effects since farmers may be switching out of the measured crop type. However, the survey revealed that of households that *only* adapted by using crop switching, only 9 households switched crop variety into something other than rice or wheat. The vast majority of these households (45) switched into new varieties of wheat or rice, which in over two-thirds of these cases meant the adoption of two recently released wheat varieties, Sehar-2006 and Shafaq-2006.

Farmers may also change the input mix they apply to crops in response to past or expected climate change. Perhaps the most obvious strategy is increasing the amount of water applied to crops to counter extreme heat and/or low precipitation. Along with this, the survey also showed that a substantial number of farmers increased the amount of fertiliser used. This is the dominant adaptation type with over half of adapters changing inputs in some way.

Increased temperatures and more erratic rainfall may have significant impacts on the state of both soil and water resources, meaning that investments to conserve these resources help farmers adapt to climate change. Higher temperatures are likely to increase the rate at which water is lost from the soil, meaning that they will have to exert more effort into maintaining soil moisture. In addition, heavy rainfall would increase the amount of soil erosion, placing greater emphasis on the need to invest in techniques to reduce these impacts. Investments to counter these effects in Pakistan include contour planting, use of shelterbelts, or manure application. Overall, soil conservation was used by half of adapters.

Given the aridity of the climate, more efficient use of water is paramount to adaptation strategies in Pakistan (Baig et al., 2013). These strategies are clearly important since 47 percent of adapters use them. Farmers could utilise rainwater harvesting methods or the construction of bunds around fields to reduce run-off. Water conservation used by farmers in our sample show a distinct pattern. In areas where irrigation is scarce, bunding is the primary strategy used. In areas where irrigation is available, more emphasis is put on more water-efficient methods such as furrow irrigation.

2.3 Crop types

We study farmers who grow either wheat or rice. The average productivity of farmers for each crop is shown in Table 1. In contrast to Di Falco et al. (2011), who estimate a model using an aggregation of five major crop types, we study each crop separately. Aggregation of different crops into a single production function, however, may have significant disadvantages to studying food security of households.⁷ Aggregation may confuse analysis when growing conditions differ significantly or inputs are used differently. Similarly, the seasonal nature of production in Pakistan over the Rabi (harvested in spring) and Kharif (harvested in autumn) seasons may also complicate the interpretation of an aggregated production function. To account for this, we estimate separate regressions for each crop.

The primary crop grown in our sample is wheat. Production takes place over the Rabi season when temperatures and rainfall are lower than the summer. 80% of farmers in Pakistan grow wheat and it makes up 37% of energy intake of the population. A lack of suitable irrigation infrastructure and access to inputs are argued to be behind low yields (FAO, 2013). The implications for wheat yields in the face of climate change are important to whether farmers adapt. Sultana et al. (2009) use agronomic crop models to predict the impacts of climate change on wheat yields across climatic zones in Pakistan. They conclude that increases in temperature will decrease wheat yields in arid, semi-arid and sub-humid zones, although increases in temperature could increase yields in humid areas. Shifting growing to cooler months could be an effective adaptation to mitigate the effects of higher temperatures. Siddiqui et al. (2012) estimate the yield response of district-level wheat to temperature and precipitation changes in Punjab and conclude that projected climate change would non-negatively impact the production of wheat.

Rice is one of the most important Kharif (summer) crops grown in Sindh and Punjab. It is important as both a food crop and cash crop. Growth requires access to a good water supply, mostly by irrigating the crop during the hot summer months, although it is sometimes grown under rainfed conditions. Since high summer temperatures are already

⁷To a certain degree, aggregation across different types of crop is hard to avoid. For instance, aggregation is done even within the same crop type. In our sample, 19 different wheat varieties are grown. It is plausible that factors such as input requirements may substantially differ even within crop types.

present across rice growing areas in Pakistan, increased temperatures driven by climate change have been projected to negatively affect rice productivity (Siddiqui et al., 2012).

2.4 Variables

[Table 1 about here.]

[Table 2 about here.]

The variables shown in Table 1 are used to conduct the empirical analysis described in the next section. Table 2 additionally displays the difference in the sample mean of these characteristics between adapters and non-adapters. As defined previously, adaptation is a dummy variable indicating whether or not the household has adapted to climate change. In our sample, just under half the households have undertaken on-farm measures to adapt to climate change.

Agricultural input data was collected at the plot level to account for the fact that households often grow more than a single crop.⁸ We also include the total landholdings of a household to examine the relationship between farm size and adaptation. On average, households in our sample are two acres larger than the national average which stands at 6.4 acres (Government of Pakistan, 2010). Adapters tend to be households that farm more land. Plot-level inputs include seed, fertiliser, and labour. Differences between adapters and non-adapters suggest that adapters are more input intensive.

We include a dummy variable indicating whether a plot is irrigated to account for the likelihood that irrigated yields are higher than rainfed yields. A high proportion of farms (76%) are irrigated, underscoring the importance of irrigation for farms across Punjab and Sindh.

We also include a set of variables to control for observable differences between households. To control for the education status of households, we include a variable for maximum education of a household (one if member can read and write to seven for an advanced degree). On average, levels of education are low although most households are equipped with basic reading and writing skills.

⁸On average, households crop three different crops.

We include a variable to measure the gender composition of the household. Women play an important part in farming activities, supplying a large amount of labour. Their role in farming activities is often constrained, since they are excluded from many of the most productive activities, such as operating machinery (Samee et al., 2015).⁹

A crucial aspect in the decision to conduct on-farm adaptation may be the existence of off-farm employment. We include a dummy variable indicating whether a household member is engaged in off-farm labour. Nearly sixty percent of households have at least one member off-farm. Non-adapters are significantly more likely to have at least one member that works off-farm.

As well as the decision to supplement income off-farm, the ability to generate other forms of agricultural income may affect whether farmers engage in adaptation involving their cropping activities. The *Livestock* was included to indicate whether the household owned cattle or buffalo which can be used for dairy farming. The majority of households in our sample own livestock, although adapters are more likely to do so.

Numerous studies have cited the difficulty of obtaining credit as a crucial factor in determining the ability of farmers to adapt to climate change in other settings (Deressa et al., 2009; Maddison, 2007). Credit markets are an important feature of Pakistan's rural agricultural economy owing to the range of different types of lenders that offer credit (Aleem, 1990). They may be an important part of the adaptation decision because some adaptations require significant up-front investment that may have to be leveraged with credit. We distinguish between two types of credit. Formal credit is provided by established institutions like banks and microfinance organisations. Chandler and Faruquee (2003) find that formal credit only accounts for 7% of households who are in receipt of credit, but makes up 22% of the volume of loans. Informal credit is provided by a range of actors, such as family members or landlords. Salient in Pakistan is the role of the middleman who often supplies credit in exchange for providing farmers with marketing services. There is a common perception that middlemen charge high rates of interest on loans (Haq et al., 2013), although it is argued by Aleem (1990) that higher rates of

⁹A related paper by Udry (1996) documents that plots farmed by women in Burkino Faso have yields 30% lower than those controlled by men due to unequal access to farm inputs.

interest reflect high screening costs and the riskiness of lending to farmers. We test for the role that different types of credit play by including dummy variables for farmers in receipt of both formal and informal credit. Only a small proportion of households in our sample have access to formal credit, while a fifth of households are reliant on informal credit. More adapters use formal credit whereas non-adapters use more informal credit.

A variable to indicate whether the household owns their land is included to test whether property rights are an important institutional determinant of adaptation. Different land rights may affect the decision to adapt. For instance, Jacoby and Mansuri (2008) link higher investments in land-improving practices with the security of tenure in Pakistan. Similarly, Ali et al. (2012) show that investments in land and farm productivity are lower for leased relative to owned land in Punjab. Of the farmers sampled here, three quarters own their land.

Formal extension services may be one way in which farmers learn about new farming information. Those that are best informed about suitable adaptation practices may be more likely to adopt these practices. For instance, work by Hussain et al. (1994) concludes that the Training and Visit extension programme in Punjab in the late 1980's was successful at encouraging the adoption of new agricultural technologies. A surprisingly low proportion (7%) of farmers are in receipt of these services in our sample, although this is more likely for adapters.

Given the heavy losses endured due to flooding between 2010-2012 in areas of Sindh and Punjab, the experience of extreme events may condition whether farmers adapt to climate change. Experience of extreme events may prime the farmer to the possibility of such events in future. On the other, extreme events may have prolonged effects that constrain a farmer's ability to invest in costly adaptive measures. We include a dummy variable to indicate whether households have experienced income losses due to flooding in the last three years. Over sixty percent of farmers experienced losses due to flooding in the years prior to the survey, with more adapters having experienced flooding than non-adapters.

Factors at the village-level could reflect the relative development of some areas over

others. To proxy for the composition and level of village public investment an indicator for the presence or absence of a school in the village was used. Schools are present in the majority of villages sampled.

The final four variables in the table relate to farmers' subjective opinions about whether the climate is changing. We investigate which aspects of the climate farmers think have changed. The first variable in this set shows that the majority of farmers, 79%, perceive average temperatures to have increased, although this proportion is greater for adapters. An even larger proportion (88%) felt that the amount of rain was changing, reflecting the observation that the South Asian summer monsoon has become more erratic (Singh et al., 2014). Only a low proportion of farmers (5%) perceive the timing of this phenomenon to have changed, however. Given the experience of extreme events previously mentioned, we also include a variable that relates to whether extreme events, defined as droughts and floods, have increased in frequency. Over half the sample perceives this to be the case.

3 Empirical methodology

In this section we outline the empirical approach used to estimate the impact of adaptation on crop yields in Pakistan. To do this we pursue two strategies that seek to estimate the causal effect of adaptation given the cross-sectional data available. Farmers that choose to adapt are likely to be a non-random, self-selected group, where selection may occur on the basis of observable characteristics, or unobservable ones. An example could be that households that have better farm management skills are likely to be more productive and also have a higher propensity to adapt their farming activity to climate change. In this case, the influence of such an unmeasured characteristic could lead us to over-estimate adaptation's impact on crop productivity. To account for these potential selection processes we undertake the following empirical approach.

First, we take a starting position that selection is on the basis of observable characteristics. Matching techniques, in particular Propensity Score Matching (PSM), are

then used to balance the observable characteristics between adapters and non-adapters, and estimate the treatment effect on yield. Since selection on observables is potentially unrealistic, two subsequent methods are then used. First, we test the sensitivity of the PSM results to selection on unobservable characteristics by using Rosenbaum bounds analysis (Rosenbaum, 2002). This method simulates selection on unobservables by perturbing the estimated propensity score with changes in its unobservable component, and then re-estimating the treatment effect and its standard errors. The basic idea is that if, after matching, two farmers with the same observed characteristics differ in the odds of being treated, then the study may be subject to unobserved bias. Any sensitivity of the treatment effects would then be a sign of the importance of unobservable characteristics. Second, we use a control-function approach to explicitly account for the role of unobservable characteristics in the adaptation decision. Specifically, we use an endogenous switching regressions, which can estimate treatment effects in the presence of unobserved heterogeneity.

3.1 Propensity score matching

Propensity score matching techniques have frequently been applied in empirical settings to estimate causal effects where individual's may select into a treatment group (e.g. (Dehejia and Wahba, 2002)). In the case where farmers who adapt to climate change are systematically different from farmers who have not adapted, it may not be valid to attribute differences in observed productivity to adaptation. Propensity score matching proceeds by matching those farmers in the treated and non-treated groups with similar propensity to be treated (Rosenbaum and Rubin, 1983). If the matching process is successful, the distribution of the observed covariates should be similar for those who adapted and their matched counterfactual.

To implement this technique, we first estimate the propensity score separately for farmers who crop wheat and rice using a probit regression. Then, a nearest neighbour PSM algorithm with replacement is used to match farmers, assuming common support (Rosenbaum and Rubin, 1983). A number of tests are then undertaken to evaluate the

extent to which PSM has balanced the observed characteristics.

Following this, the treatment effects of adaptation are estimated. We focus on two parameters. First, the average effect of adaptation on those that adapted is calculated as the average treatment effect on the treated (ATT). Intuitively, this compares the observed productivity of adapters with their estimated productivity had they not adapted. Second, the average treatment effect on the untreated (ATU) is also calculated. In this case, non-adapters' observed productivity is compared with their estimated productivity had they adapted. This parameter is useful for assessing whether any potential productive gains from adaptation could be extended to the population of non-adapters, hence it is useful for determining policy scope. We finally test the sensitivity of these parameters to unobserved variables affecting selection by using Rosenbaum bounds.

3.2 Endogenous switching regression

In order to address the potential for selection on observables when estimating the impact of adaptation, we use an endogenous switching regression model. This method is based on that of the Heckman selection model Heckman (1979) who treats selection bias as an omitted variable the distribution of which can be estimated. This methodology has previously been applied to the study of climate adaptation and crop productivity by Di Falco et al. (2011) in Ethiopia.

We use the standard treatment effects framework to estimate yields of farmers in a counterfactual adaptation scenario. A full description of this approach is outlined in the Online Appendix, with the essentials outlined below. Adaptation is defined as the treatment variable which can take discrete values 0 or 1, where $D = \{0, 1\}$. The selection equation (Online Appendix equation A.1) is estimated using a probit model. Each treatment state has a specific yield equation $y_{ji} = \mathbf{X}_{ji}\boldsymbol{\beta}_j + \epsilon_{ji}$, with $j = 1, 2$ reflecting the adaptation and non-adaptation states respectively. Following Heckman et al. (2003), the expected value of the productivity Y_{1i} for farmers that adapted is written as:

$$E(Y_{1i}|D = 1) = \mathbf{X}_{1i}\boldsymbol{\beta}_1 + \sigma_{\omega 1}\lambda_{1i} \quad (1)$$

The vector \mathbf{X}_{1i} contains explanatory variables and β_1 the estimated coefficients. $\sigma_{\omega 1}$ is the covariance between the error in the selection (ω_i) and production equation (ϵ_{ji}). The term λ_{1i} is interpreted as an inverse Mills ratio (Heckman, 1979), which is included in the productivity equation as an explanatory variable to account for any unobserved selection bias.

In the same way, the outcome Y_{2i} for non-adapters is expressed as:

$$E(Y_{2i}|D = 0) = \mathbf{X}_{2i}\beta_2 + \sigma_{\omega 2}\lambda_{2i} \quad (2)$$

These equations represent the observed outcomes for the adapters and non-adapters. The switching regression framework can also be used to estimate counterfactual outcomes for adapters and non-adapters. For the adapters, the counterfactual is the scenario where they do not adapt, represented by:

$$E(Y_{i2}|D = 1) = \mathbf{X}_{1i}\beta_2 + \sigma_{\omega 2}\lambda_{1i} \quad (3)$$

The case where non-adapters do adapt can be represented similarly as:

$$E(Y_{i1}|D = 0) = \mathbf{X}_{2i}\beta_1 + \sigma_{\omega 1}\lambda_{2i} \quad (4)$$

Using a generalised treatment effects framework, the impact of adaptation can be estimated for adapters and non-adapters.

$$\begin{aligned} ATT &= E(Y_{i1}|D = 1) - E(Y_{i2}|D = 1) \\ &= \mathbf{X}_{1i}(\beta_1 - \beta_2) + (\sigma_{1\omega} - \sigma_{2\omega})\lambda_{1i} \end{aligned} \quad (5)$$

The predicted impact of adaptation on those that did not adapt, the ATU, is defined as

$$\begin{aligned} ATU &= E(Y_{i1}|D = 0) - E(Y_{i2}|D = 0) \\ &= \mathbf{X}_{2i}(\beta_1 - \beta_2) + (\sigma_{1\omega} - \sigma_{2\omega})\lambda_{2i} \end{aligned} \quad (6)$$

The results section reports the estimates of these impact parameters.¹⁰

¹⁰Estimation uses full information maximum likelihood (Lokshin and Sajaia, 2004).

Estimation and identification using the endogenous switching approach requires the inclusion in the selection equation of at least one variable that affects the probability of adapting but not the productivity of farmers.¹¹ Di Falco et al. (2011) use climate information sources as selection instruments. We argue against the use of these instruments in the context of this study given we identified that farmers gathered advice on farming practices and climate information from a range of sources, including landlords and middlemen. Since these agents may have important implications for farmers' productivity, other than through adaptation, we choose not to follow in the use of these instruments.

The variables we include relate to farmer perceptions about climate change. We argue that farmers who perceive certain changes in the climate are more likely to adapt. Although we would expect that the perception of climate change in general is a prerequisite for farmers adapting, perceiving different types of change may be important predictors of adaptation. For instance, farmers perceiving increases in average temperatures may be more likely to adapt than farmers who perceive other types of climate change. The validity of the selection instruments also relies on the assumption that perceptions do not drive the productivity of farmers except through the decision to adapt. Although this assumption cannot be directly tested, a way of providing support for this assumption is to test whether or not the included selection instruments drive the productivity of farmers who do not adapt. Evidence for this would provide support for the validity of the identifying assumptions. Table A.2 shows how strongly the selection instruments perform in a. predicting the probability of adaptation and b. predicting productivity of non-adapters. The four climate perception variables are jointly significant in the adaptation equation at the 5% level for wheat and at the 10% level for rice. Additionally, an F-test of joint linear significance of these variables in the productivity equation for non-adapters rejects the null hypothesis for both wheat and rice. This provides evidence that these variables are not correlated with the productivity of farmers.¹²

¹¹It is theoretically possible to identify this model without the inclusion of additional instruments since λ_{1i} and λ_{2i} are non-linear functions of the included variables in the selection equation. However, problems of multicollinearity can make this type of identification weak in practice (Huber and Mellance, 2014).

¹²The model also requires the assumption that the error terms between the selection equation and productivity equation are bivariate normally distributed. Failure of this assumption could also lead to

4 Results

4.1 Household determinants of adaptation

[Table 3 about here.]

We begin by looking at the determinants of the binary adaptation decision. To do this we use a logit model using the sub-sample of farmers who crop either wheat or rice. The results are shown in Table 3. Each explanatory variable is measured at the household level. We do not include variables measured at the plot level, such as production inputs, in this regression. A set of district fixed effect terms are included in the regression to control for average regional characteristics such as climate and farming practices which vary across the country. Although the estimated coefficients cannot be interpreted causally, we investigate the correlation between adaptation and these variables to see if they have the expected relationship on the probability of adaptation.

The results indicate that gender could play in the adaptation decision, since households with a higher proportion of women are more likely to undertake adaptation. There is also some support for the hypothesis that adaptation on-farm is substitutable for working off-farm, as those households with a member off-farm are significantly less likely to adapt. In addition, formal credit is positively related to the propensity to adapt, whereas informal credit is negatively related, providing evidence that credit channels affect the costs and benefits of investing in new technologies. As is noted by Chandler and Faruquee (2003), this may be because informal loans are typically granted to fund consumption over short durations. Informal loans tend to fund consumption-smoothing activities, rather than productive investments on-farm.

As expected, households who receive extension from the government or NGOs are more likely to adapt. Previous exposure to floods is positively related to adaptation, perhaps supporting the view that experience of extreme events primes households to adapt. Households who also own livestock are positively associated with adaptation.

The significance of the extension service variable highlights the important role ex-

inconsistent parameter estimates.

tension services play in facilitating farm adaptation. This accords with previous evidence that generally finds that extension services have positive effects on the adoption of productivity-enhancing technologies (Birkhauser et al., 1991; Hussain et al., 1994). Previous experience of flooding and ownership of livestock are also shown to be positively related to adaptation. Subjective opinions of climate change are also related to whether households have adapted. It seems that adaptation is more likely among those who perceived that average temperatures have been increasing. However, those not reporting on increasing numbers of extreme events, such as droughts or floods, are less likely to adapt.

[Table 4 about here.]

With the adaptation decision modelled we now estimate a baseline model of the impact of adaptation on yields by crop. Table 4 shows the coefficient estimates for farmers who crop wheat and rice using OLS regression. The coefficient is significantly positive at the 10% level for wheat providing preliminary evidence that adaptation is associated with higher wheat yields. Given average wheat yields of 18.39 maunds/acre, this suggests a gain in productivity of approximately 8%. For rice, the OLS estimate for adaptation's impact is positive and significant at the 5% level. The magnitude of this coefficient implies that gains from adaptation could be as high as 21% given average rice yield of 22.67 maunds per acre.

Irrigation is associated with strong productive benefits highlighting the importance of water use for a water-intensive crop like rice. Households who earn income off-farm seem to be less productive. There is also suggestive evidence to suggest that households who use credit from formal sources are also less productive.¹³

Characteristics associated with labour availability have a negative effect on productivity. In particular, a higher proportion of females and off-farm work is associated with lower productivity. Reasons for the lower productivity of households with a high num-

¹³One explanation may be the finding of Chandler and Faruquee (2003) who document that households with very large landholding (>25 acres) account for 41.6% the receipt of formal credit. They argue that larger households are less productive than smaller households. This is the case for wheat farmers in the sample. Total land area was 14.7 acres for farmers using formal credit, compared with 8.5 acres for those without. Similarly, wheat plot size was on average 2 acres larger for formal credit farmers. As such, diminishing marginal returns to land may be one explanation for this result.

ber of females may relate to the fact that in some cases, despite the availability of farm equipment, women’s access to this is undermined, thus reducing the productivity of their labour supplied (Samee et al., 2015).¹⁴

Households with experience of flooding are shown to be more productive for rice. Although we must be cautious in interpreting this effect causally, there are two plausible reasons for this. Firstly, flooding can lead to the transportation and deposit of organic matter that increases soil fertility. Secondly, flooding could increase the amount of irrigation available, most likely from canal irrigation.¹⁵

4.2 Matching results

The balance tests for the matching algorithm are shown in Table A.3. We see that matching on the propensity score leads to a much better overall balance of covariates across groups of adapters and nonadapters. For wheat, a high degree of success can be seen, with the matched sample leading to low overall explanatory power of the probability of treatment. The bias of the covariates across the samples is also substantially reduced, with mean and median overall bias now falling below 4%. The Rubin B and R tests also fall within the bounds suggested by Rubin (2001) to constitute sufficient balance. For rice we also see a substantial reduction in bias in the matched sample. The mean and median bias is also reduced, although it does not quite reach the 5% threshold generally accepted in observational studies (Caliendo and Kopeinig, 2008). The results of the Rubin R test also suggest that matching may not have entirely eliminated differences across treatment groups, perhaps due to the relatively small sample of rice farmers.

Prior to matching, observations that do not share a common support are dropped. For wheat, this leads to dropping 70 observations (5% of the total wheat sample). For rice, the number of observations lacking common support is 48, which equates to 16% of

¹⁴Although women contribute heavily to crop production, they play an integral role in non-crop agriculture such as livestock rearing and in household chores such as food preparation, water collection, and care of children and the elderly (Samee et al., 2015).

¹⁵Since rice is a water intensive crop, increased availability of water from irrigation could increase productivity. The most recent floods in 2011 and 2012 occurred in Sindh province. In our survey, a large proportion of households in Sangar and Sukkur districts were affected in both floods. Households from these districts form nearly half of rice producers in the sample.

the total rice sample.

The results of the treatment effect of adaptation from the matching exercise are shown in Table 5. Standard errors are calculated by bootstrapping over 300 iterations. For wheat, the effect of adaptation for those that adapted (ATT) is estimated to be positive but insignificant. For rice, productivity is estimated to increase by 21% by undertaking adaptation practices. This result is significant at the 5% level. These results are broadly in line with those estimated by OLS. Similarly, the effect of adaptation for those that did not adapt is also estimated to be positive and significant, with gains of 18% for wheat farmers (significant at 5% level) and 13% for rice farmers (significant at the 10% level).

[Table 5 about here.]

Increases in yield of around 18-13% are economically meaningful magnitudes, but are these estimates robust to the identification assumption associated with selection on observables? To test this, we examine how sensitive the results are to the influence of unobservable characteristics through the Rosenbaum bounds test. We implement this test by adjusting the sensitivity parameter, γ , by increments of 0.1 starting at 1. Each time 0.1 is added to γ the unobservable components are multiplied by a higher number, increasing the odds that a farmer adapts, despite having the same observable characteristics. The full set of these results is shown in Tables A.4 - A.7 in the appendix and the results summarised here. For wheat, the ATT seems sensitive to changing γ , becoming insignificant when γ equals 1.3, suggesting that small differences in unobserved covariates could affect the results. The ATU parameter estimate is slightly more robust to changes in γ , becoming insignificant when γ equals 1.4. For rice, incremental changes in γ follow a similar pattern to those of wheat. The ATT becomes insignificant when γ equals 1.4 and at 1.5 for the ATU. Overall, the results are somewhat robust to changes in unobservables, but the ATT results do not withstand large differences.

We also test the robustness of these results to subsets of the adaptations strategies within the PSM approach. We divide adaptation strategies into three subsets: soil and water conservation (SWC) only, cropping changes only, or some combination of these. These results are shown in Table A.8, and indicate the particular importance of SWC

as an adaptation strategy. SWC strategies are predicted to yield positive benefits for non-adapting wheat farmers, and for adapters and non-adapters for rice. These results are significant at the 10% level.

From the propensity score matching results, we conclude that although in most cases adaptation is estimated to have a positive effect on treatment, we cannot rule out the potential role of unobservable differences between adapters and non-adapters. In the following section we attempt deal with potential selection on unobservables by employing an endogenous switching regression.

4.3 Endogenous switching regressions

Table 6 shows the estimated change in crop productivity due to adaptation. The full set of coefficient estimates are displayed in Tables A.9 and A.10 in the Online Appendix. For wheat, the selection bias corrected estimate of adaptation is estimated at 0.299 maunds per acre and not statistically significant from zero. For rice, the treatment effect estimated by the endogenous switching approach is 2.751 maunds per acre. In contrast to the impact estimate for wheat, this is significantly positive, indicating productivity benefits of around 9 percent for farmers that adapted. The results underline the importance of accounting for unobservable differences between adapting farmers and non-adapters. Specifically, since the robustness tests showed sensitivity to potential unobservable characteristics, this appears to explain why estimates obtained by least squares and propensity score matching were larger than those when accounting for unobserved selection.

The results for rice compare in magnitude to those in a recent meta-analysis of the effect of temperature and adaptation on crop yields at the regional-scale using crop simulation models. For instance, Challinor et al. (2014) find that adaptations at crop-level for both rice and wheat increase yields by 7-15% on average.¹⁶ The benefits of adaptation are also studied by Soora et al. (2013) for rice yields in India using a simulation model. They find that in irrigated rice areas, agronomic improvements, such as shifting cropping dates and switching rice varieties, offset expected climate change damages of around 5%

¹⁶In accord with our study, Challinor et al. (2014) consider only ‘incremental’ changes to current crop production practices such as changes in cropping dates or switching varieties.

up until 2040.

The average treatment effect on the untreated (ATU) is shown in Table 6. Estimated gains from adapting for this group of farmers are much larger than for adapters. For wheat farmers, we estimate that the adoption of adaptation strategies could lead to yield gains of around 36%. The gains for rice are even larger at over 60%.¹⁷ These results are large, and indeed, surprising given the relatively smaller gains estimated for adapters. The explanation may lie in the counterfactual that is being estimated. As is noted by Shiferaw et al. (2014), the ATU reflects the difference in outcomes if non-adapters had similar characteristics to adapters. As such, these differences could reflect the potential effect of relaxing constraints on some of the unobservable characteristics of non-adapters, e.g. labour market constraints, and associated benefits this would have on productivity.

As a robustness check, we run an additional specification controlling for weather variables. This is done to examine if weather conditions during the sample period, which could have primed farmers to attribute short term variations to long term changes and also affected productivity, change the results. The results in Table A.11 show that inclusion of weather variables in the endogenous switching regressions does not change the interpretation of the main results.¹⁸

The importance of accounting for selection on unobservables, and the associated selection bias, can also be seen in the estimation of the correlation coefficient between the unobservable components of the switching equation and the outcome equation, ρ . The derivation of this parameter is stated in the Online Appendix. Tables A.9 and A.10 show that ρ is statistically significant for both rice and wheat producers. This is indicative of the presence of positive unobserved selection bias in the adaptation decision (Lokshin and Sajaia, 2004). Intuitively, this implies that those households with higher than average

¹⁷A similar result was found by Di Falco et al. (2011) in Ethiopia who estimate much larger gains for non-adapting farmers.

¹⁸In this specification, the impact of adaptation for wheat adapters is estimated to not be significantly different from zero. The predicted effect for non-adapters is estimated to be around 1.8 maunds per acre, compared with 2.8 maunds per acre in the main specification. This is also significant at 1%. For rice, the impacts are also very similar, with practically no difference between estimated impacts for adapters. For the non-adapters, the estimates are also very close to those in the main specification, with both predicted gains from adaption at over 50% of current yields. We kindly thank the Editor for suggesting this robustness check.

productivity are more likely to have adapted to climate change. This finding is similar to that of Abdulai and Huffman (2014) in the case of adoption of soil and water conservation technologies in Ghana.

[Table 6 about here.]

5 Discussion and Conclusion

This study investigates whether strategies used by farmers to adapt to climate change lead to increased productivity. The use of this unique and specifically designed dataset in Punjab and Sindh provinces of Pakistan shed light on a region that is expected to be negatively affected by climate change. We also study factors that affect whether farmers have adapted to climate change or not, which provides preliminary evidence about the role of transactions costs and complementary inputs in determining whether farmers adapt.

We estimate that farmers who have previously adapted to climate change have benefited in terms of productivity improvements for rice. The results for wheat farmers suggest that there are positive gains to adaptation but these are not statistically different from zero. This highlights the importance of considering differences in crop responses to adaptation. One possible explanation could be that adaptations are not effective at increasing average yields. As is noted by Sultana et al. (2009), shifting planting dates of wheat to later in the year is a key adaptation strategy. Since this effectively reduces the length of the growing season, it is possible that farmers are trading-off the potential benefits of a longer growing season for the security of growing wheat during more temperate months. Semenov et al. (2014) study adaptation of wheat to climate change in Europe and find that although the use of quicker maturing varieties are a useful adaptation for avoiding months where temperatures are hottest, use of these varieties is associated with lower yields due to the shorter growing durations. As such, avoiding yield losses due to downside risk-averse aversion or loss-aversion could be a primary factor in farmers' adaptation decision. This highlights the need for future work that examines whether adaptation has reduced extreme yield losses, and the extent to which risk-preferences

drive adaptation decisions for insurance purposes.

Estimated productivity gains for non-adapters are found to be substantial. Given that adaptation is practiced by more productive farmers on average, we interpret this to indicate that there are significant opportunities to increase the food security of farmers. Unobserved differences between farmers may indicate the existence of high transaction costs that inhibit current non-adapters from adapting. Given that many farmers perceive the climate to have changed to some degree, the reason for not adapting could reflect differences in the cost of adapting such as a prohibitively large labour requirement, or other similar constraints that hinder non-adapting farmers from adapting, despite the potential for increases in yield.

Observable determinants of adaptation also provide some evidence that institutional factors play an important part in allowing farmers to adapt. We find that access to credit is associated with the decision to adapt. However, it appears that the *type* of credit affects the propensity to adapt. Whereas informal credit is negatively related to the probability of adapting, formal credit is positively correlated with the probability of adaptation. This underlines the need for a greater reach of formal credit. This study contributes to previous work in Pakistan on the variation in the specific form of these institutions and their effects on agricultural development. Access to extension services is also associated with a higher probability of adaptation. Targeting these services in areas where other constraints exist is likely to provide the most effective support to farmers.

Growth in the wider economy may provide opportunities and incentives for household members to earn income off-farm. We find evidence that households engaging in these alternative income generating activities are less likely to engage in on-farm adaptation. Given that the off-farm labour variable is associated with lower productivity also, it appears that there is some substitutability between investing in productivity-enhancing measures on-farm versus allocating time and effort off-farm. The allocation of labour in response to a changing climate is complex issue, and an area for future research. Indeed, this paper has also highlighted the difficulty in establishing causal relationships and the sensitivity to both observable and unobservable characteristics. Careful treatment of

these factors is required for results to be useful for policy purposes.

Finally, our findings also show a clear cross-over between agricultural development and climate change adaptation. Policy makers could therefore focus efforts on treating adaptation as part of agricultural development policy, and on specific transaction costs to adaptation faced by farmers. Addressing the constraints and better targeting interventions to facilitate adaptation could improve short-term food security and also better prepare farmers in this region for future challenges brought about by a changing climate. Given ongoing concerns of Pakistan’s P&DDs evaluating the source of agricultural losses, and the need for planning in the face of climate change, these are timely findings.

References

- A. Abdulai and W. Huffman. The Adoption and Impact of Soil and Water Conservation Technology: An Endogenous Switching Regression Application. *Land Economics*, 90(1):26–43, 2014.
- I. Aleem. Imperfect Information, Screening, and the Cost of Informal Lending: A Study of a Rural Credit Market in Pakistan. *World Bank Economic Review*, 4(3):329–349, 1990.
- A. Ali, A. Abdulai, and R. Goetz. Impacts of Tenancy Arrangements on Investment and Efficiency: Evidence from Pakistan. *Agricultural Economics*, 43:85–97, 2012.
- M. Auffhammer and W. Schlenker. Empirical Studies on Agricultural Impacts and Adaptation. *Energy Economics*, 46:555–561, 2014.
- M. Baig, S. Shahid, and G. Straquadine. Making Rainfed Agriculture Sustainable through Environmental Friendly Technologies in Pakistan: A Review. *International Soil and Water Conservation Research*, 1(2):36–52, 2013.
- D. Birkhauser, R. Evenson, and G. Feder. The Economic Impact of Agricultural Extension: A Review. *Economic Development and Cultural Change*, 39(3):607–650, 1991.

- M. Caliendo and S. Kopeinig. Some Practical Guidance for the Implementation of Propensity Score Matching. *Journal of Economic Surveys*, 22:31–72, 2008.
- A. Challinor, J. Watson, D. Lobell, S. Howden, D. Smith, and N. Chhetri. A Meta-Analysis of Crop Yield Under Climate Change and Adaptation. *Nature Climate Change*, 4:287–291, 2014.
- S. Chandler and R. Faruquee. The Impact of Farm Credit in Pakistan. *Agricultural Economics*, 28:197–213, 2003.
- Q. Chaudhry, A. Mahmood, G. Rasul, and M. Afzaal. Climate Change Indicators of Pakistan. *Pakistan Meteorological Department, Technical Report No. PMD-22/2009*, 2009.
- R. Dehejia and S. Wahba. Propensity Score-Matching Methods for Nonexperimental Causal Studies. *The Review of Economics and Statistics*, 84(1):151–161, 2002.
- T.T. Deressa, R.M. Hassan, C. Ringler, T. Alemu, and M. Yesuf. Determinants of Farmers’ Choice of Adaptation Methods to Climate Change in the Nile Basin of Ethiopia. *Global Environmental Change*, 19(2):248–255, 2009.
- O. Deschenes and M. Greenstone. The Economic Impacts of Climate Change: Evidence from Agricultural Output and Random Fluctuations in Weather. *American Economic Review*, 97(1):354–385, 2007.
- S. Di Falco. Adaptation to Climate Change in Sub-Saharan Agriculture: Assessing the Evidence and Rethinking the Drivers. *European Review of Agricultural Economics*, 41(3):405–430, 2014.
- S. Di Falco and M. Veronesi. How African Agriculture Can Adapt to Climate Change? A Counterfactual Analysis from Ethiopia. *Land Economics*, 89(4):743–766, 2013.
- S. Di Falco, M. Veronesi, and M. Yesuf. Does Adaptation to Climate Change Provide Food Security? A Micro Perspective from Ethiopia. *American Journal of Agricultural Economics*, 93(3):829–846, 2011.

- S. Fankhauser, J. Smith, and R. Tol. Weathering Climate Change: Some Simple Rules to Guide Adaptation Decisions. *Ecological Economics*, 30(1):67–78, 1999.
- FAO. Pakistan: Review of the Wheat Sector and Grain Storage Issues. Technical report, Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), 2013.
- Government of Pakistan. Agricultural Census 2010. *Government of Pakistan Statistics Division Agricultural Census Organisation*, 2010.
- A. Haq, A. Aslam, Chaudhry A.A., A. Naseer, K. Muhammad, K. Mushtaq, and M.S. Farooqi. Who is the ‘Arthi’: Understanding the Commission Agent’s Role in the Agriculture Supply Chain. *International Growth Centre (IGC) Working Paper*, 2013.
- J. Heckman. Sample Selection as a Specification Error. *Econometrica*, 47(1):153–161, 1979.
- J. Heckman, J.L. Tobias, and E. Vytlacil. Simple Estimators for Treatment Parameters in a Latent-Variable Framework. *The Review of Economics and Statistics*, 85(3):748–755, 2003.
- Y. Hijioka, E. Lin, J.J. Pereira, R.T. Corlett, X. Cui, G.E. Insarov, R.D. Lasco, E. Lindgren, and A. Surjan. *Asia*, volume Climate Change 2014: Impacts, Adaptation, and Vulnerability. Part B: Regional Aspects. Contribution of Working Group II to the Fifth Assessment Report of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change, chapter 24, pages 1327–1370. University of Cambridge Press, 2014.
- M. Huber and G. Mellance. Testing Exclusion Restrictions and Additive Separability in Sample Selection Models. *Empirical Economics*, 47(1):75–92, 2014.
- S.S. Hussain, D. Byerlee, and P.W. Heisey. Impacts of the Training and Visit Extension System on Farmers’ Knowledge and Adoption of Technology: Evidence from Pakistan. *Agricultural Economics*, 10:39–47, 1994.
- S. Islam, N. Rehman, and M.M. Sheikh. Future Change in the Frequency of Warm and

- Cold Spells over Pakistan Simulated by the PRECIS Regional Climate Model. *Climatic Change*, 94:35–45, 2009.
- H. G. Jacoby and G Mansuri. Land Tenancy and Non-Contractible Investment in Rural Pakistan. *Review of Economic Studies*, 78:763–788, 2008.
- R. Kousar and A. Abdulai. Off-Farm Work, Land Tenancy Contracts and Investment in Soil Conservation Measures in Rural Pakistan. *The Australian Journal of Agricultural and Resource Economics*, 60(2):307–325, 2016.
- P. Kurukulasuriya and R. Mendelsohn. Crop Switching as a Strategy for Adapting to Climate Change. *African Journal of Agricultural and Resource Economics*, 2:105–126, 2008.
- D. Lobell and M. Burke. *Climate Change and Food Security*, chapter 8, pages 133–153. Springer Science + Business Media, 2010.
- M. Lokshin and Z. Sajaia. Maximum likelihood estimation of endogenous switching regression models. *The Stata Journal*, 4(3):282–289, 2004.
- D. Maddison. The Perception of and Adaptation to Climate Change in Africa. *World Bank Policy Research Working Paper 4308*, 2007.
- R. Mendelsohn. Efficient Adaptation to Climate Change. *Climatic Change*, 45:583–600, 2000.
- R. Mendelsohn, W. Nordhaus, and D. Shaw. The Impact of Global Warming on Agriculture: A Ricardian Analysis. *American Economic Review*, 84(4):753–771, 1994.
- P. Rosenbaum and D. Rubin. The Central Role of the Propensity Score in Observational Studies for Causal Effects. *Biometrika*, 70:41–55, 1983.
- P.R. Rosenbaum. *Observational Studies*. Springer, New York, 2002.
- D. Rubin. Using Propensity Scores to Help Design Observational Studies: Application to the Tobacco Litigation. *Health Services Outcomes Research Methodology*, 2:169–188, 2001.

- D. Samee, F. Nosheen, H.N. Khan, I.A. Khowaji, K. Jamali, S. Akhtar, Z. Batool, and Z. Khanum. Women in Agriculture in Pakistan. Technical report, Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), Islamabad, 2015.
- M. Semenov, P. Stratonovitch, F. Alghabari, and M. Gooding. Adapting Wheat in Europe for Climate Change. *Journal of Cereal Science*, 59:245–256, 2014.
- B. Shiferaw, M. Kassie, M. Jaleta, and C. Yirga. Adoption of Improved Wheat Varieties and Impacts on Household Food Security in Ethiopia. *Food Policy*, 44:272–284, 2014.
- R. Siddiqui, G. Samad, M. Nasir, and Jalil H.H. The Impact of Climate Change on Major Agricultural Crops: Evidence from Punjab, Pakistan. *The Pakistan Development Review*, 51, 2012.
- D. Singh, M. Tsiang, B. Rajaratnam, and N. Diffenbaugh. Observed Changes in Extreme Wet and Dry Spells During the South Asian Summer Monsoon Season. *Nature Climate Change*, 4:456–461, 2014.
- N. Soora, P. Aggarwal, R. Saxena, S. Rani, S. Jain, and N. Chauhan. An Assessment of Regional Vulnerability of Rice to Climate Change in India. *Climatic Change*, 118: 683–699, 2013.
- H. Sultana, N. Ali, M. Mohsin Iqbal, and A.M. Khan. Vulnerability and Adaptability of Wheat Production in Different Climatic Zones of Pakistan Under Climate Change Scenarios. *Climatic Change*, 94:123–142, 2009.
- A. Turner and H. Annamalai. Climate Change and the South Asian Summer Monsoon. *Nature Climate Change*, 2:587–595, 2012.
- C. Udry. Gender, Agricultural Production, and the Theory of the Household. *Journal of Political Economy*, 104(5):1010–1046, 1996.

Table 1: Variable summary

Variable name	Description	Mean	SD
Adaptation			
Adapt	1 if adapted to climate change, 0 otherwise	0.47	0.49
Productivity			
Yield (Wheat)	Wheat output (maunds/acre)	18.22	10.38
Yield (Rice)	Rice output (maunds/acre)	31.39	18.10
Explanatory variables			
Plot size (acres)	Crop area (acres)	4.07	4.39
Total land (acres)	Household land (acres)	8.49	11.03
Seed (kg/acre)	Seed used (kg/acre)	36.33	46.13
Fertiliser (kg/acre)	Fertiliser used (kg/acre)	2.84	2.38
Labour	Adult labourers (number)	4.12	4.19
Irrigated	1 if plot is irrigation, 0 otherwise	0.76	0.42
Maximum education	Maximum household education (1-7)	1.12	2.03
Females in household	Percentage of females in household	0.45	0.14
Work off-farm	1 if household member has off-farm job, 0 otherwise	0.59	0.49
Owens livestock	1 if owns cattle or buffalo	0.73	0.44
Bank credit	1 if credit from formal finance institution, 0 otherwise	0.08	0.27
Informal credit	1 if credit from informal lender, 0 otherwise	0.19	0.40
Owens land	1 if land is owned, 0 otherwise	0.74	0.43
Formal extension	1 if receives formal extension services, 0 otherwise	0.07	0.24
Affected by flooding	1 if affected by flooding (2010-2012), 0 otherwise	0.62	0.48
Village school	1 if village has a school, 0 otherwise	0.87	0.33
Ave. temp increase	Perceives average temperature increased	0.79	0.40
Change in rain amount	Perceives amount of rain changed	0.88	0.31
Change in rain timing	Perceives timing of rainy season changed	0.08	0.27
Extreme events inc e	Perceives extreme events (drought, flood) increased	0.55	0.49

Table 2: Characteristics of adapters and nonadapters: Differences

	Adapters	Non-adapters	Difference
Productivity			
Yield (Wheat)	19.58	17.20	2.38***
Yield (Rice)	33.94	28.37	5.56***
Explanatory variables			
Plot Size	4.60	4.24	0.36
Total land (acres)	9.82	7.68	2.13***
Seed	56.97	44.33	12.64***
Fertiliser	3.00	2.51	0.48***
Labour	4.05	4.32	-0.26
Irrigated	0.82	0.62	0.19***
Maximum education	0.78	1.17	-0.39***
Females in household	0.46	0.43	0.03***
Work off-farm	0.54	0.68	-0.13***
Owens livestock	0.78	0.69	0.09***
Bank credit	0.10	0.04	0.06***
Informal credit	0.16	0.22	-0.05**
Owens land	0.72	0.77	-0.05**
Formal extension	0.08	0.04	0.04***
Affected by flooding	0.69	0.52	0.17***
Village school	0.88	0.86	0.02
Ave. temp increase	0.82	0.76	0.06***
Change in amount of rain	0.89	0.88	0.01
Change in timing of rainy season	0.09	0.06	0.03
Extreme events increase	0.56	0.51	0.04
Chakwal	0.07	0.19	-0.11***
Jhang	0.13	0.12	0.01
Rahim Yar Khan	0.13	0.06	0.07***
Rawalpindi	0.01	0.10	-0.09***
Sanghar	0.17	0.14	0.03
Sukkur	0.24	0.17	0.07***
Observations	746	916	1662

*p<0.1, **p<0.05, ***p<0.01

Table 3: Household determinants of adaptation:
logit regression

Logit regression	
Dependent variable: Adapt (0/1)	Coef./se
Irrigated	0.001 (0.258)
Max educ.	-0.001 (.038)
Females in household	1.092** (0.449)
Work off-farm	-0.347** (0.146)
Bank credit	0.586** (0.266)
Informal credit	-0.460** (0.182)
Owens land	0.076 (0.175)
Formal extension	0.590** (0.277)
Affected by flooding	0.906*** (0.281)
Village school	0.586*** (0.215)
Owens livestock	0.320** (0.159)
Total land (acres)	0.007 (0.006)
Ave. temp increase	0.368** (0.179)
Change in amount of rain	0.195 (0.234)
Change in timing of rainy season	0.360 (0.257)
Extreme event increase	-0.448*** (0.171)
Constant	-1.831*** (0.549)
Pseudo- R^2	0.129
N	1065

Regression includes regional dummy variables

Standard errors are heteroskedasticity robust

*p<0.1, **p<0.05, ***p<0.01

Table 4: Ordinary least squares regressions to estimate the impact of adaptation

	Wheat	Rice
Adapt	1.474* (0.857)	4.724** (2.088)
Plot size (acres)	-0.529*** (0.137)	0.010 (0.483)
Fertiliser (kg/acre)	0.317** (0.125)	1.377** (0.605)
Pesticide (kg/acre)	0.665 (0.713)	0.871 (0.534)
Labour intensity (no. of adults/acre)	1.220*** (0.227)	0.500** (0.234)
Seed (kg/acre)	0.010 (0.007)	-0.027 (0.061)
Irrigated	0.725 (1.217)	5.635** (2.641)
Maximum education	0.072 (0.210)	-0.397 (0.578)
Females in household	-1.446 (3.003)	-14.196** (7.073)
Work off-farm	-1.860** (0.879)	-4.251* (2.339)
Bank credit	-5.626*** (1.284)	0.874 (3.396)
Informal credit	-0.324 (1.108)	0.742 (2.579)
Owens land	1.307 (1.167)	2.602 (2.404)
Formal extension	-0.436 (1.706)	-0.002 (3.069)
Affected by flooding	0.871 (1.582)	7.469** (3.632)
Village school	0.997 (1.520)	-4.410 (3.030)
Owens livestock	-0.297 (0.957)	-0.159 (2.988)
Total land (acres)	0.029 (0.043)	0.096 (0.148)
Constant	15.984*** (3.306)	9.093 (6.998)
Region dummies	Yes	Yes
N	1364	297

Regression includes regional dummy variables

Standard errors are heteroskedasticity robust

*p<0.1, **p<0.05, ***p<0.01

Table 5: Impact of adaptation on yields of adapters: Propensity score matching estimates

Mean Outcome (units: maunds/acre)				
	Adapt	Not Adapt	Difference	% Change
ATT				
Wheat	19.552	18.794	0.757	4
n= 574			(1.970)	
Rice	33.583	27.674	5.908**	21
n= 130			(2.729)	
ATU				
Wheat	20.001	17.003	2.998**	18
n= 720			(1.249)	
Rice	32.421	28.647	3.773*	13
n=119			(2.229)	

Standard errors are calculated by bootstrapping over 300 replications.

*p<0.1, **p<0.05, ***p<0.01

Table 6: Impact of adaptation on yields: Endogenous switching regression estimates

Mean Outcome (units: maunds/acre)				
	Adapt	Not Adapt	Difference	% Change
ATT				
Wheat	19.573	19.274	0.299	2
n=585	(0.345)	(0.460)	(0.367)	
Rice	33.926	31.175	2.751***	9
n=161	(0.844)	(0.636)	(0.742)	
ATU				
Wheat	23.398	17.193	6.204***	36
n=779	(0.351)	(0.361)	(0.231)	
Rice	47.245	28.376	18.869***	66
n=136	(1.186)	(0.836)	(1.020)	

Standard errors are heteroskedasticity robust

*p<0.1, **p<0.05, ***p<0.01